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THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE

THE NEWS THAT HICKEY WAS OUT THERE somewhere was encouraging. Presumably he was in the Baltimore-Washington area. Maybe there was a way to get his address. Reppert made a note to check with his police sources on the off chance they could locate the agent's home.

As far as the alleged legal threat went, neither Donahue nor Reppert gave it much thought. If Hickey was serious about setting the record straight, he knew where to find them. Until and unless the evidence surfaced that conclusively destroyed the theory, Donahue and Reppert were in full agreement. Work on the book would continue.

Donahue knew Hickey had had a serious mental problem & did not mention his phone and why did Reppert disappear?

In fact, Donahue had long believed there might just be that kind of evidence—evidence that would instantly wreck his conclusions or, alternatively, prove them beyond a reasonable doubt—if he could only get his hands on it. For years he'd seen references to spectrographic tests conducted by the FBI on the bullet fragments recovered from the scene of the crime.[1] Spectrography is a process that involves incinerating tiny samples of the specimen in question and then comparing the color of the flames produced to those of known chemical/metallic standards.[2]

originally "tapes" not spectrographic in play

again ignorant and he is without material re where from brain

Since there were very likely significant differences in the metallic composition of the 6.5 Carcano and .223 AR-15 bullet jackets, Donahue reasoned that spectrographic comparison of the jacket material from Kennedy's brain would show conclusively whether the bullet that had killed the President came from a Carcano or an AR-15.

The testimony was by SA Frazier, not Gallagher, who was the last witness on paraffin tests after Report was done

The curious thing was, the spectrographic results were not included anywhere in the Warren Report or in the Commission's volumes of evidence. And FBI spectrographer John Gallagher, although he testified about tests done on the President's clothes, was never questioned about tests done on the bullet fragments.[3] To Donahue, these

omissions seemed bizarre, given the importance of the information to the Commission's lone-gunman thesis. Reppert never came to look at anything and Donahue did come but did not look

In... with wrong and nonsense

Reppert figured there had to be a way to get at the test data and to that end he contacted noted Warren Commission critic and assassination investigator Harold Weisberg, the Frederick, Maryland–based author of the *Whitewash* series. Weisberg had some startling news. Beginning in 1967, he said, he'd peppered the Justice Department with requests for a number of assassination-related documents, including the spectrographic analysis results.[4] Weisberg eventually filed a lawsuit under the newly instituted Freedom of Information Act aimed at recovering the test data. Government attorneys responded by arguing that revelation of the test results was not in the "national interest," though they never explained why.[5] at what I got.

Eventually, though, the Justice Department relented and released several documents that they asserted were responsive to Weisberg's demands. Unfortunately, the only information from the spectrographic tests included in these papers were unidentified, partial, and therefore meaningless numerical notations made during the procedure.[6] false!

Then in 1973 a bombshell detonated in the form of a previously unknown letter from J. Edgar Hoover to J. Lee Rankin, chief counsel for the Warren Commission.[7] The letter, dated July 8, 1964, revealed that in addition to spectrographic analysis, another kind of test had been conducted on the bullet fragments. This was an extraordinarily precise and, at the time, relatively new procedure known as neutron activation.[8] The process involved irradiating organic or inorganic materials—in this case the bullet fragments—with nuclear particles. The specimens would then emit gamma rays, which could be counted, compared, and analyzed to reveal the exact composition of the substance down to parts per billion. The process was and remains vastly superior to spectrographic analysis and is so accurate it is often referred to as "nuclear fingerprinting."

[illegible] what HW did,

Today, neutron activation has found applications in a wide range of areas. Among other things, it is used in agriculture for detecting pesticide residues on crops, in electronics for measuring impurities in silicon semiconductors, in medicine for tracing metals in metabolism, in geology for analyzing minerals, and in law enforcement for analyzing physical evidence from the scene of a crime.

Using the process, police can identify poisons administered to a victim by analysis of the victim's hair, compare tiny flecks of paint from hit-and-run automobile accidents and contrast minuscule spots of dirt or grease, among a host of other applications. Neutron activation conducted on a strand of Napoleon's hair and on hair removed from the exhumed body of Sweden's King Eric XIV has shown both men were probably poisoned with arsenic.

Hoover's 1964 letter blandly noted that "minor variations" were found in some of the Dealey Plaza bullet fragments, including those